

# NI Bulletin

A Publication of Numismatics International Inc.

Volume 48 Nos. 3 / 4



March / April 2013

\$4.00

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# Numismatics International Bulletin

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When this edition is distributed it will be spring in the northern hemisphere and I for one will be glad about that. One of the good things about winter is the large number of international coin auctions that are conducted. Thankfully spring also has a large number of such auctions. On the topic of auctions there have been many sales of the Archer Huntington Collection of Hispanic coins held by various European auction houses. Until recently the ANS (American Numismatic Society) was the caretaker of the collection and has overtly declared its desire to reclaim the collection. From a February ANA news release:

New York, NY—The American Numismatic Society announced today that it has received a long-term loan of another group of some 7,291 coins and tokens from the collection of Archer M. Huntington. An anonymous friend of the Society bought the group with the kind assistance of Dr. Alain Baron of Geneva, consisting of c. 5,923 bronze and silver tokens from various European countries (c. 1300-1800) and 1368 ancient bronze coins of Spain of the Pre-Roman period. Previously, another friend of the Society had already put on loan over 19,000 coins. The Society has now again over 26,500 coins of the original c. 38,000 objects of the great Spanish collection of its benefactor Archer Huntington. The Executive Director, Dr. Ute Wartenberg Kagan, expressed her gratitude to the purchaser of this group of coins, "I am overjoyed that the Society has two such good friends, who realized the importance of saving as much as possible of this collection for the public. We will do our best to honor Archer Huntington's intention of keeping and publishing his amazing collection of coins."

It will be interesting to see how much of the collection is returned to the ANS and to see which important coins do not and if possible their whereabouts. I am particularly

*Continued on back cover...*

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## Coins Countermarked with Political Messages and Related Pieces

Gregory G. Brunk, NI #749

(Continued from November/December 2012 *NI Bulletin*)

### Catalog: Part S (Spain)

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#### — SPAIN —

I owe a great debt of gratitude to Alejandro Lascano. He provided a number of photos for this section and considerable information concerning Spanish political countermarks.

#### Ferdinand VII?

This is another of the numerous bust countermarks that are found on European coins of the Napoleonic era. This bust often is identified as that of Napoleon when it appears at auction, but it could be a young Ferdinand VII as it is similar to the latter's bust on Spanish colonial half escudos. The bust is in relief, rather than being the more usual sort of incuse bust countermark. The bust seems to have a beard, but that might be an illusion resulting from a rusted stamp.

#### Laureate Bust Right in Shaped Indentation

Eight Reales: 1798, 1811

Sardinia Five Lire: 1820



Spanish Colonial Eight Reales



Sardinia Five Lire

#### Incuse Countermarks

Many French coins with such incuse countermarks as busts of Napoleon are called “political” when they appear at auction. Instead of being political issues, most of them seem to be mint sports or later strikes made from master punches intended for making working dies.

This 1810 Spanish twenty reales of Joseph Napoleon is a particularly spiffy example of this sort of piece. The bottom stamp is incuse and the Bourbon Spanish shield is reversed. The upper stamp seems to be an almost nude Hercules holding a club and a lion's head. When this coin was sold thirty years ago it was described as possibly the work of Bourbon loyalists. More likely it was made from master punches of a medal firm, which may have been purchased by a coin dealer after the firm went out of business.





**Twenty Reales**

### **Amadeo I**

Isabel II abdicated the Spanish throne in 1868, leaving no obvious successor. Prussia supported the candidacy of Leopold of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, but the French viewed having a German on the Spanish throne as a threat to French national security. Leopold withdrew his candidacy upon recognizing that he was too controversial. After a period of regency under Francisco Serrano, the Constitutional *Cortes* elected Amadeo I in November of 1870. He was the son of Victor Emmanuel II of Italy, but lasted little more than two years as king before abdicating in February of 1873. *Memo* means foolish. It was stamped on his coins with individual letter punches.

### **MEMO**

Five Pesetas of Amadeo I: 1871 (3)



**Five Pesetas**

### **Alfonso XII**

When Isabel II abdicated, her son Alfonso was eleven years old. He became king in 1874—after the short reign of Amadeo—and ruled until 1885, dying in his late twenties. No countermarks are known that refer to him, but there is an interesting engraved ten céntimos. On it the young king wears a military uniform and cap and smokes a cigarette. The Spanish shield has been engraved so it consists of three fish, presumably indicating that his reign smelled bad.



**Ten Céntimos**

## **CARLISTS**

The Spanish civil wars of 1832-1839, 1848-1849, and 1872-1876 were the last major European dynastic wars. When Ferdinand VII died in 1833 his wife Maria Cristina became regent for his daughter, Isabel II. Their followers were called Cristinos and had liberal views. They were opposed by the conservative Carlists, who supported the candidacy of Infante Carlos, the Count of Molina. He was the brother of Ferdinand VII and later known as Carlos V. Isabel II ruled until 1868, and a succession of Carlists claimed the thrones of both Spain and France into the 20th century. The Carlist slogan was *Dios, Patria, Fueros, Rey*, meaning God, Country, Laws and King. [*Fueros* referred to local rule or charters—*Ed.*] It was abbreviated as D.P.F.R.

### **DIOS / PATRIA / REY**

Ten Céntimos: 1877

### **D. P. F. R.**

Ten Céntimos: 1877, UK (1877-1879 Type)



**Ten Céntimos**

## **Carlos VII**

Carlos, Duke of Madrid was born in 1848 and died in 1909. Upon becoming the senior member of the House of Bourbon in 1868, he became the Carlist claimant to the throne of Spain and the Legitimist claimant to the throne of France.

### **Crown / VII**

Five Céntimos: 1868

### **Crown / CARLOS / VII (Design Made from Punch Marks)**

Ten Céntimos: 1870

## **Alfonso Carlos I**

Alfonso Carlos, the Duke of San Jaime was born in 1849 and died in 1936. He was pretender to the throne of Spain as Alfonso Carlos I and of France as Charles XII.

**VIVA – EL REY – A – CARLOS –**

Ten Céntimos: 1870



**Ten Céntimos**

**VIVA / EL / REY / CARLISIMO / ABAJO**

Ten Céntimos: 1870

## **Other Possible Carlist Countermarks**

Moreno y Casanova and Forrest (2000: 39) commented that “Various Carlist countermarks are known, like the fleur-de-lis,” which was the Bourbon dynastic symbol, but they did not provide any details. As noted earlier, odd stamps often are given a political meaning as a way to get a higher price when auctioned. Most of the lily countermarks the writer has seen appear to be from merchant stamps and do not have a political purpose.



Verdejo Sitges (1991) notes other stamps that might be political, but probably had some other purpose. They might have been intended to mark metal objects in the style of hallmarks or they could be merchant stamps. CABRERA, for example, on an 1825 eight maravedis could refer to General Ramon Cabrera y Grino, but it also could be a merchant stamp in the style of British issues of the era, which often consisted of crowned initials.

## TWENTIETH CENTURY COUNTERMARKS

The countermarks of the political rivals whose disputes culminated in the Spanish Civil War of the late 1930s have some similarities to the more recent issues of Northern Ireland. A number of different groups stamped coins in both nations. Some of the Spanish countermarks are from prepared punches. Others are from individual letter punches and are like the Irish pieces in consisting of abbreviations. Some other Spanish “political” countermarks have been reported, but the writer was unable to determine the meaning of their abbreviations. They may be private countermarks that did not have a political purpose, and so they are not noted here.

A few of the countermarked coins listed below are exceedingly fancy, such as the Socialist Youth with large star pieces. They may have been souvenirs or might have been used like Masonic mark pennies, indicating membership in an organization. (Another apparent example of this sort of fraternal purpose piece will be noted later regarding the Jacobites.)

The denomination of a number of the countermarked coins in this section was not specified in earlier articles and auction listings. I am not certain if all the denominations are listed correctly.

### Communists

A number of varieties of the communist hammer and sickle have been noted on worn ten céntimos.

#### Hammer and Sickle

Ten Céntimos: 1870, 1878, UK (2)



Ten Céntimos



Ten Céntimos

### **Red Star (Hammer and Sickle in Star)**

Five Céntimos: 1879



**Five Céntimos**

### **P C / Hammer and Sickle**

Ten Céntimos: UK



**Ten Céntimos**

### **VOTAD AL PARTIDO COMUNISTA around Hammer and Sickle**

Ten Céntimos: UK



**Ten Céntimos**

### **Falangists**

The *Falange Española* was a fascist political party founded in 1933 by Antonio Primo de Rivera, the son of a former dictator. It emphasized Spain's imperial and religious traditions. It merged with other right-wing political parties and the Carlists who supported Francisco Franco in 1937.

Moreno y Casanova (2002) illustrated a very interesting political countermark on a four maravedis of Philip V that was minted between 1740 and 1743. The coin is roughly the size of a ten céntimos, and it could have circulated as such during the 1930s. (A number of ancient Roman coins have 17th century Spanish government countermarks indicating their value in maravedis, which means countermarking old coins was not unheard of in Spain.) This four maravedis is countermarked FALANJE. Moreno y Casanova illustrated another coin with just the initials F E in the same style letters, but from larger, individual letter punches.



## **FALANJE**

Four Maravedis: Philip V



**Four Maravedis, about the size of Ten Céntimos**

## **F E**

Means Falange Española

Ten Céntimos: 1877



**Ten Céntimos**

## **VIVA / FRANCO**

Ten Céntimos: 1934

## **FE JONS**

The Juntas de *ofensiva nacional sindicalista* or JONS was formed in 1931. At first it was a small organization whose membership consisted of students in Madrid and workers and farmers around Valladolid. It expanded greatly in the next few years, and in 1934 merged with the Falange Española to become the FE JONS. It merged with the Carlists three years later, becoming the only legal Spanish political party.

## **F E / J O N S**

Ten Céntimos: 1878



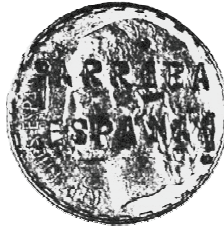
**Ten Céntimos 1878**

## Onward Spain!

The Falangist salute was *Arriba España!* (Onward Spain). Valls i Font (1985: 41) noted this countermark on a 1937 Republican peseta and argued it was an economic issue. Accordingly, it would have been used in 1938 by General Gonzalo Queipo de Llano in Andalucía to validate Republican coins for use in Nationalist territory. But the only photographed specimen the writer has seen is from individual letter punches and seems to be a political countermark.

¡ ARRIBA / ESPAÑA !

Peseta: 1937



**Peseta**

## Swastikas

Forrest (1994: 280) reported a large swastika countermark on a 1945 Spanish five céntimos that was in the collection of Juan Jose Moreno y Casanova.

**Swastika**

Five Céntimos: 1945

Peseta: 1947



**Five Céntimos**



**Peseta**

## CNT - FAI

CNT stands for the *Confederación Nacional del Trabajo* (National Confederation of Labor), which was formed in 1910. As Moreno y Casanova and Forrest (2000: 39) summarized the CNT's objectives, it was "the great anarchist syndicate... (whose goal) was to maintain the purity of the collectivist principle in the face of moderate and communist tendencies." The CNT sided with the Republicans against the Fascists during the Spanish Civil War. It was part of the Republican government; it organized militia groups and assassinated opponents of the regime.

The CNT was very closely associated with the FAI, which was founded in Valencia in 1927. The goal of the *Federación Anarquista Ibérica* was to unify Spanish and Portuguese anarchists. The FAI opposed the Republic before the Spanish Civil War and participated in the rebellions in Bajo Llobregat in 1931 and Casas Viejas in 1933. Members of the FAI fought against Franco during the Civil War. Both organizations still exist. Their close relationship often was expressed by the initials CNT-FAI.





**C.N.T. on red \ F.A.I. on black**

Some countermarks were made from single letter punches. Others are from specially made stamps that are slightly smaller than the diameter of ten céntimos. The phrase *Obreros No Votar!* (Workers, Don't Vote!) was a call to boycott the ballot box in the election of 1933 (Moreno y Casanova 1994). At least one version of this countermark was made using a special stamp, just large enough to cover the entire face of a ten céntimos. Others were made from individual letter punches.

### **C N T**

Ten Céntimos: 1870, UK



**Ten Céntimos**

## **Numismatics International Seminar**

**June 7 – 9, 2013**

**See page 59 for details**

**VIVA / LA / CNT**

Ten Céntimos: UK



**Ten Céntimos**

**CNT / FAI**

Ten Céntimos: 1927

**C. N. T. / NO VOTAR**

Ten Céntimos: UK

**C. N. T. / NO VOTAR / F. A. I.**

Ten Céntimos: UK (2)

**C. N. T. / OBREROS / NO VOTAR. / F. A. I.**

Ten Céntimos: 1870 (2), UK (2)



**Ten Céntimos**

**F. A. I.**

Five Céntimos: 1878, UK

Ten Céntimos: UK



**Five Céntimos**



**Ten Céntimos**

## NO VOTES F A I

Ten Céntimos: 1870



Ten Céntimos

## OBRERO / NO BOTA / F A I

Ten Céntimos: UK

## OBRERO / NO VOTES

Ten Céntimos: UK

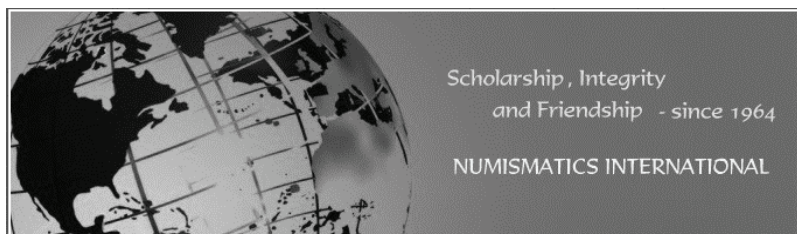


Ten Céntimos

## Nationalists

The Spanish political groups that competed for power during the 1930s used different versions of “Onward Spain” as their rallying cries. The Falangist slogan was *Arriba España*, while the Loyalists used *Viva la República*, and the Nationalists *Viva España* (Rulau 2003: 159, 164-165). Such countermarks have been reported on various Spanish coins minted from the 1870s to the late 1930s, but the specifics of only a couple of pieces have been detailed in the literature.

The individual letters of the Nationalist countermark that is listed below were made using some sort of tool—perhaps a screwdriver or chisel—to impress the various parts of each letter. The initials M.D are countermarked on the reverse in the same style; their meaning is not known. Moreno y Casanova and Forrest (2000: 40) note *Viva España* is a traditional military salute, and the countermark probably was issued during the Civil War somewhere in the Nationalist part of the country.



## VIVA / ESPAÑA

Rev: **M.D**

Ten Céntimos: 1870



**Ten Céntimos**

## VIVA / LA / REPUBLICA

Rev: **AÑO / 1933 / 34**

Ten Céntimos: 1877



**Ten Céntimos**

## Socialist Youth

J.S indicates *Juventud Socialismo*, which was the Spanish socialist youth movement. *Amnistía* calls for amnesty for its members who had been convicted of participating in the 1934 revolt (Rulau 2003: 159). *Justicia para víctimas represión* means Justice for Victims of Repression.

**¡ AMNISTIA ! / J. \* S.**

Ten Céntimos: 1870 (2), 1878 (3), UK



**Ten Céntimos**



## JUSTICIA . PARA . VICTIMAS . REPRESIÓN

Ten Céntimos: 1878

These fancy pieces probably had a similar purpose as Masonic pennies and Dutch guild marks by indicating the owner's membership in say, a union lodge. Alternatively, they could be souvenirs of a union meeting. PS means *Partido Socialista* (Socialist Party), UGT means *Unión General de Trabajadores* (General Workers Union), which is one of Spain's largest unions.

**P S U G T around J. S. in Star**

Rev: **NO / MAS / EJECUCIONES**

Means No More Executions

Ten Céntimos: UK



Ten Céntimos

**P S U G T around J. S. in Star**

Rev: **VIVA / EL / PARTIDO / SOCIALISTA**

Ten Céntimos: UK



Ten Céntimos

### Union of Proletarian Brothers

UHP signifies the *Unión de Hermanos Proletarios*, which was the union of miners and other workers who participated in the 1934 rebellion in the Asturias region of Northern Spain (Moreno y Casanova 2002). By the time of the Spanish Civil War the initials had gained the more general meaning of *Uníos Hermanos Proletarios* for Union of Proletarian Brothers Unite! This was a call to overcome the policy differences that existed among the communists, socialists and anarchists.

## U H P

Ten Céntimos: 1877



**Ten Céntimos**

### **Workers Party**

The POUM or *Partido Obrero de Unificación Marxista* (Workers Party of Marxist Unity) was an anti-Stalinist group founded in 1935. It unified the *Bloque Obrero y Campesino* (Workers and Peasants Party) of Joaquín Maurín and the *Izquierda Comunista de España* (Communist Left of Spain) of Andreu Nin. The POUM was part of the Popular Front that triumphed in the election of February 1936 (see below). Its support was centered in Valencia and Barcelona. This countermarked coin seems to have been made from a prepared punch and probably was produced in one of those two cities.

Joseph Stalin had consolidated his grip on power in Russia by the late 1930s. The mainstream Spanish communists and the Soviet Secret Police—which was active in Spain—then turned against the POUM. The POUM was accused of conspiring with Francisco Franco and the Fascists on the basis of a series of forged letters. A number of POUM members were shot in late 1937 and Nin was murdered. The party was outlawed, and in October 1938 its remaining leaders were charged with espionage, but not convicted (Moreno y Casanova and Forrest 2000).

## **P. O. U. M.**

Five Céntimos: 1870



**Five Céntimos**

### **1936**

Moreno y Casanova (2002) noted he had seen “1936” countermarked on two coins of roughly the same size, a Spanish ten céntimos and a French ten centimes. While these two stamps from individual punches are not identical, they are similar in style, and appear to commemorate some event. They might, for example, commemorate the success of the Popular Front in the elections of 1936, but that is by no means certain.

**1936**

Ten Céntimos: 1877

French Ten Centimes: 1856

### **Democracy Movement**

Spanish supporters of democracy met in Paris in 1974 to organize opposition to Francisco Franco's regime. In March of 1975 their groups merged to become the *Junta Democrática*. Its activities included radio broadcasts from London and Paris (Valls i Font 1987). Franco died that year, political parties were legalized and the first elections since 1936 were held once Juan Carlos became king.

### **VIVA / LA / JUNTA / DEMOCRATICA**

Five Pesetas: UK



**Five Pesetas**

### **JD / 1975**

Five Pesetas: 1957



**Five Pesetas**

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Special thanks to Alejandro Lascano, who corrected a number of errors in my initial listings.

**NI**



## Pulcheria, Backbone of an Empire

### Heritage Rare Coins

Aelia Pulcheria, the daughter, sister and wife to three different Eastern Roman emperors, played a critical role in maintaining the stability of the Eastern Roman regime in the tumultuous early to mid fifth century AD.

Born circa AD 398 to Arcadius and Aelia Eudoxia, she had a far more forceful and dominating personality than her timid younger brother, Theodosius II. When Arcadius died in AD 408 and Theodosius ascended the throne at the age of seven, Pulcheria took upon herself the role of her brother's protector. In AD 414 she came of age and the Senate declared her Augusta, or Empress, whereupon she dismissed the powerful Praetorian prefects who had been controlling the government and took over the regency herself. She declared her intent to remain a virgin

(possibly to avoid a political marriage and an end to her independent power), and devoted herself to the Church, which was playing an increasingly dominant role in the Eastern Roman government.

Under her control, the Imperial Palace came to resemble a convent, with Pulcheria playing role of the Mother Superior. She took her brother's education into her own hands and saw to it he learned how to look, act, and perform rituals like an Emperor; however he lacked backbone, which she had to provide to keep the Theodosian regime in undisputed power. Under her guidance the East Roman Empire successfully intervened in the West and installed her nephew, Valentinian III, on the throne (AD 424-425); while to the East, a brief war against Persia was successfully prosecuted (AD 421).



Aelia Pulcheria, sister of Theodosius II (Augusta, AD 414-453). AV solidus (21mm, 4.31 gm, 1h). Constantinople, AD 441-450. AEL PVLCHERIA AVG, pearl-diademed bust right, wearing necklace and earrings / IMP XXXXII COS XVII P P, Constantinopolis enthroned facing left, holding globus cruciger in right hand and scepter in left; COMOB in exergue. RIC 288. Depeyrot 84/3.

In the 420s and 430s her influence was eclipsed by Theodosius's brilliant and beautiful wife Aelia Eudocia, an Athenian scholar who fostered a brief swerve toward

Pagan philosophy and learning. However, Pulcheria eventually won this Imperial catfight by engineering adultery charges against Eudocia and forcing her exile.

Pulcheria was also targeted for criticism by the Patriarch of Constantinople, Nestorius, who accused her of high living and adulteries with seven courtiers. However the charges were so transparently fictitious that Nestorius lost favor and Pulcheria was able to outmaneuver and exile him as well.

When Theodosius was killed in a riding accident in AD 450, Pulcheria briefly ruled as sole empress before bowing to demands that she marry and thus chose a suitable man to rule as Augustus. She

wisely chose the lowborn but capable Marcian, who proved to be the strong, even-handed ruler the Empire needed. Pulcheria died in AD 453, having kept her vows of virginity and defense of her Imperial dynasty for a half-century.

Reprinted from *Heritage World & Ancient Coins Auction* January 6-7 & 15-17, 2013, New York. Lot 21431.

Article and images courtesy of Heritage Auctions (HA.com).

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*NI*

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**Ethiopia: Menelik II copper Test Strike Pattern Birr EE1890 (1898)**  
**Heritage Rare Coins**



Menelik II copper Test Strike Pattern Birr EE1890 (1898), Gill-M7, a matte Proof uniface striking of the Pattern Birr (Talari) obverse on a large thick copper planchet. 60 mm, 95.90 grams. Extremely rare if not unique and most attractive with glossy brown surfaces and ornate details. Similar to KM19 except that the designer's name, J. C. Chaplain is in the lower right obverse field. This is the Gill plate coin.

Reprinted from *Heritage World & Ancient Coins Auction* January 6-7 & 15-17, 2013, New York. Lot 20514. Article and images courtesy of Heritage Auctions (HA.com).

*NI*

**4th Century Forger's Mold**  
**Heritage Rare Coins**



**Coin Obverse**

**Inside of Mold**

**Coin Reverse**



**Outside of Mold**

Valens (AD 364-378). PB (lead) Forger's Mold. Set consists of two pieces, a larger "reverse" mold approx. 57 mm square with an overlapping lip, and a smaller "obverse" piece 50 × 54 mm designed to nest within, both sides containing impression of a silqua of Valens of the Trier (?) mint of type RIC 27 - RSC 109. Bottom of each piece has a wedge-shaped opening for the introduction of metal. Both pieces fully intact, with beige-white "lead oxide" on both sides, the exterior with some earthen encrustation. A fascinating survival from the Late Antique era and proof that the compulsion to counterfeit is as old as coinage itself!

Reprinted from Heritage World & Ancient Coins Auction January 6-7 & 15-17, 2013, New York. Lot 21426. Article and images courtesy of Heritage Auctions (HA.com).

*NI*

## NI Bulletin Article Contest Winners 2012

Selections have been made in each of the two categories, Feature Article and Short Article. (The short article category is for 500 words or less.) It is our pleasure to recognize the authors of these articles published in the NI Bulletin.

We had many fine feature-length articles in 2012. The nominations were:

Carlos Jara "Orientation of the Golden Fleece on Spanish Colonial Eight Escudos" 47:3/4. Richard Plant "How to Read Your Early Arabic Coins Without Knowing Any (or Hardly Any) Arabic" 47:7/8. John Sandrock "Bank Notes of the French Revolution, Part II (A & B), Assignats of the First Republic" 47:5/6 & 7/8. Jorge Proctor and Herman Blanton "The Illegal Mint Office of Cartagena, 1655" 47:1/2 and "Silver Ingots from the Wreck of the Maravillas Linked to Cartagena" 47:5/6. Ramiro Reyes "About the "MDQ" Coins" 47:9/10 and Robert Ronus "A Coin of Franquemont - Perhaps a Swiss Territory" 47:11/12.

Even though your editor is not eligible to win these NI awards, I cannot overlook Jorge Proctor's work which I co-authored with him. The winner of the Best Article in the Feature Article category is Jorge Proctor for his article "The Illegal Mint Office of Cartagena, 1655" which I know first hand took years to research. If you've not yet read it I highly recommend that you go back and do so as it presents new information on the Colombian mints and is very enlightening on the Potosi Mint Scandal which had a global economic impact.

In the Short Article category (500 words or less) all of the nominations are for articles I reprinted from professional numismatic auction catalogs. Of course each of these articles had a writer, albeit most times anonymous; I'm delighted to reprint them. Still I'd like to see more

original short articles submitted directly to the bulletin. The 2012 nominations were: Heritage Rare Coins for "Brazil 40 Reis" and "L. Julius Caesar" both 47:5/6. Fritz Rudolf Künker for "Otto Beh" 47:7/8 and "Jehovah Ducat" 47:11/12. Numismatica ARS Classica "Louis of Bavaria" 47:5/6, "Frederick II Grosso" 47:7/8 and "Manfred of Sicily, Gold Tari 47:11/12."

From among all of these interesting short articles I finally chose "L. Julius Caesar" from Heritage Rare Coins.

As editor I commend our winners for their contributions to numismatics and I enjoy the privilege of placing their work in the pages of the bulletin.

I encourage all of the membership to support NI by telling your friends about us and giving them an application form. You can get the form by writing NI at the Dallas address, or print it from the NI website [www.numis.org](http://www.numis.org). You can even apply on-line at the website.



**Cartagena of the Indies 1655**



**L. Julius Caesar**

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## **The Numismatics International Seminar**

Your Numismatics International Board of Governors is pleased to announce that NI will hold a seminar in the Dallas area, June 7 – 9, 2013.

Collecting United States coins has become a matter of minor varieties, grade pressure and large premiums, all of which are bound to discourage the novice. The world field, by contrast, offers immense varieties and the broadest possible appeal to historical and artistic interests, at generally reasonable prices. This gives NI a greater potential for membership growth than organizations with a narrower focus. Realizing that potential requires communicating effectively with newcomers to numismatics and a necessary preliminary step is to raise the visibility and credibility of NI within the established numismatic community.

This Seminar is intended to help begin that process. The focus is on world coins, easily the most accessible of the fields covered by NI. The topics selected have a special appeal to the established collector of domestic issues who is looking for an entree into the world hobby, although they also are of interest to our established members.

The formal schedule is as follows. Additionally, there will be a welcome reception on the evening of Thursday, June 6, and we are working on activities for those arriving early, potentially including a tour of the US Bureau of Engraving and Printing Western Currency Facility in Fort Worth.

### **Friday, June 7**

9 AM – Noon, Introduction to World Coin Identification, Part 1, Europe

1 PM - 4 PM, Grading of World Coins

### **Saturday, June 8**

9 AM – Noon, Introduction to World Coin Identification, Part 2, Americas

1 PM - 4 PM, Counterfeits and How to Distinguish Them

### **Sunday, June 9**

9 AM – Noon, Introduction to World Coin Identification, Part 3, Asia and Africa

1 PM - 4 PM, Marketplace Skills: Model Auction.

For the final session, each Seminar participant is invited to bring up to ten coins to enter as lots, to be sold in a live auction. Only participants will be eligible to bid, and no commissions will be charged, so that participants can learn important skills for coping with the numismatic marketplace in a low-risk context. For non-members or new members, it will also serve as an introduction to our NI Mail Bid Sales.

The Seminar fee will be \$150 for NI members, \$250 for all others, for registrations made by May 15. Late or on-site registrations will be made on a space-available basis, at \$200/\$300.

The venue for the Seminar is the "Courtyard Dallas DFW Airport North," where we have obtained a special room rate of \$65/night, for reservations made by May 22. The

telephone number for the hotel is (972) 929-4004. When making reservations, mention that you are there for the NI Seminar for the special rate. The Courtyard provides shuttle service to the hotel from DFW International Airport.

For registration information, please:

Visit [www.numis.org](http://www.numis.org) to register on-line and pay the registration fee through PayPal.

Or, write to: **Numismatics International**  
**Box 570842**  
**Dallas, Texas 75357**  
**Attn: NI Seminar**

Or, e-mail "secretary@numis.org"

Register early, since advertisements for The NI Seminar are appearing in *COIN WORLD*, *NUMISMATIC NEWS*, *WORLD COIN NEWS* and even *THE NUMISMATIST*.

—C.D. Carson, Secretary, Numismatics International

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### Member Notice

Some time ago the membership were asked to send in any information they had on treasure troves. Here are two. "Archaeologists Discover de Soto's Artifacts and Lost Mission" published in the Fall 2012 edition of *American Archaeology* magazine. This article discusses a land find near Ocala Florida which contained some Spanish coins. The second is "2000-Year-Old Stashed Treasure" published in January/February edition of *Archaeology* magazine. This article discusses a cache of coins and jewelry dated to the Bar Kokhba revolt A.D. 132-35. Submitted by Gordon Jarman

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*...continued from p. 39*

interested in the unique Ferdinand V and Isabella 50 ducat (excelente), c. 1500 (HSA collection 57.2040).

Your NI board of governors has arranged a seminar for 2013; please be sure to read the announcement in this edition and spread the word about it. The NI Mail Bid Sale catalog is bundled with this mailing and I hope you enjoy it. I wish all bidders success in getting the specimens they want.

*Herman Blanton*